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REMARKS

Claims 21, 24-28, 41-54 are pending in the present application.

In response to the Examiner's Restriction/Election dated, July 1, 2003, Applicants of the Examiner's Restriction/Election dated, July 1, 2003, Applicants hereby elect metal sulfide as the species for prosecution on the merits. Applicants believe that all claims are readable on this election as all claims are directed to, at least in part, metal sulfides in general or a particular type of metal sulfide.

It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance is requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicants' attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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August 1, 2003

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